

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

09/339,649

Applicant(s)

BAIRD ET AL.

Examiner

Li B. Zhen

Art Unit

2126

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.


1. ☒ This communication is responsive to response filed on 4/29/2004 and interview conducted on 8/11/2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-4,6-8,10-19,20-23 and 25-32, now renumbered as 1-29.
3. ☐ The drawings filed on \_\_\_\_\_ are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:  
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).  
\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☒ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.  
(a) ☒ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached  
1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☒ to Paper No./Mail Date 9/12/2004.  
(b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.  
**Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).**
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)                                  |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                | 6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br>Paper No./Mail Date <u>8/11/2004.</u> |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment  |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br>of Biological Material          | 8. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance                                    |
|   | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____  |

  
MENG-AL T. AN  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100

### EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Jerome G. Schaefer on August 11, 2004.

In the claims:

- a. In claim 1;
  - i. line 3, insert after "said" -- software controllable --;
  - ii. line 6, insert after "respective" -- software controllable --;
  - iii. line 7, insert after "respective" -- software controllable --;
  - iv. line 9, insert after "said" -- software controllable --;
  - v. line 13, insert after "appointed" -- to be --;
  - vi. line 18, insert after "appointed" -- to be --;
  - vii. line 19, replace "controllable devices" with -- control objects --;
- b. In claim 20;
  - i. line 4, insert after "said" -- software controllable --;
  - ii. line 7, insert after "ones of said" -- software controllable --;
  - iii. line 9, insert after "ones of said" -- software controllable --;
  - iv. line 11, insert after "said" -- software controllable --;
  - v. line 13, insert after "ones of said" -- software controllable --;

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- vi. line 17, insert after "designated" -- to be --;
- c. In claim 28;
  - i. line 5, insert after "said" -- software controllable --;
  - ii. line 8, insert before "device" -- software controllable --;
  - iii. line 9, insert before "device" -- software controllable --;
  - iv. line 10, insert after "any" -- software controllable --;
  - v. line 12, insert after "while said" -- software controllable --;
  - vi. line 15, insert after "designated" -- to be --; and
- d. Please replace claim 15 with the following:

15. A method of registering control objects, the method comprising:

broadcasting a control message from an enabled control object to inform other registered control objects that said enabled control object exists;

determining if said enabled control object is a first registered control object;

appointing said first registered object to be a manager object to administer a list of logical attributes of software controllable devices; and

wherein all control objects are capable of being a manager object in a system for controlling a plurality of software controllable devices having embedded operating systems and represented by a plurality of control objects that maintain said list of logical attributes of respective ones of said software controllable devices, said control object accepting and issuing control messages

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to and from said respective ones of said software controllable devices, and said control object being a component object model object and polymorphic such that said control object is adapted to take on the logical attributes and command and control capabilities of any of said software controllable devices.

### **Conclusion**

2. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Li B. Zhen whose telephone number is (571) 272-3768. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon - Fri, 8:30am - 5pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Meng-Ai An can be reached on (571) 272-3756. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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Examiner  
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lbz  
August 12, 2004